

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
HIROOMI MATSUZAKI ) : Examiner: Unassigned  
Application No.: Unassigned ) : Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Filed: November 19, 2001 ) :  
For: PROCESS CARTRIDGE, )  
ELECTROPHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE :  
FORMING APPARATUS AND )  
CARTRIDGE MOUNTING METHOD: November 19, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 5, 7, 9, 11, 13-14, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 and 32 as follows. A marked-up copy of Claims 5, 7, 9, 11, 13-14, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 and 32 showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

5. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claims 1 or 2, wherein said engaging member is projected upwardly beyond a top side of said cartridge frame portion

and is projected in the direction of insertion beyond a leading end surface of said cartridge frame portion, wherein said leading end surface is a surface which takes a leading position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus, wherein said top side is a side which takes a top position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

7. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claims 1 or 2, wherein said first guide portion is projected beyond a side surface of said cartridge frame portion in a direction crossing with the direction of insertion, and said first guide portion has a horizontal projected portion which is substantially parallel with a top side of said cartridge frame portion and a downward projected portion which projects downwardly from said horizontal projected portion, said downward projected portion having a bottom end for being guided by said guide fixed in the main assembly.

9. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claims 1 or 2, wherein said second guide portion is projected downwardly from a bottom side of said cartridge frame portion, and a leading end portion of said second guide portion is engageable with a hole provided in the main assembly of the apparatus, wherein the bottom side takes a bottom position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

11. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claims 1], 2 or 3] or 2, wherein said third guide portion is projected downwardly from a bottom side of said cartridge frame portion, wherein the bottom side takes a bottom position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

13. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claim 1, wherein a top side of said cartridge frame is provided with a first grip for being gripped when said cartridge is carried, and a trailing end portion of said cartridge frame is provided with a second grip for being gripped when said cartridge is inserted into or taken out of the main assembly of the apparatus.

14. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claim 1, further comprising a positioning member provided at a leading end side with respect to the direction of insertion of the process cartridge, the positioning member extending so as to enclose said driving force receiving member, wherein a part of said positioning member is engaged with a positioning recess provided in the main assembly of the apparatus to be correctly positioned at a mount position in the main assembly of the apparatus.

23. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to Claims 19 or 20, wherein said engaging member is projected upwardly beyond a top side of said cartridge frame portion and is projected in the direction of insertion beyond a leading end surface of said cartridge frame portion, wherein said leading end surface is a surface which takes a

leading position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus, wherein said top side is a side which takes a top position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

25. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to Claims 19 or 20, wherein said first guide portion is projected beyond a side surface of said cartridge frame portion in a direction crossing with the direction of insertion, and said first guide portion has a horizontal projected portion which is substantially parallel with a top side of said cartridge frame portion and a downward projected portion which projects downwardly from said horizontal projected portion, said downward projected portion having a bottom end for being guided by said guide fixed in the main assembly.

27. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to Claims 19 or 20, wherein said second guide portion is projected downwardly from a bottom side of said cartridge frame portion, and a leading end portion of said second guide portion is engageable with a hole provided in the main assembly of the apparatus, wherein the bottom side takes a bottom position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

29. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to Claim 19 or 20, wherein said third guide portion is projected downwardly from a bottom side of said cartridge

frame portion, wherein the bottom side takes a bottom position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

31. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to Claim 19, wherein a top side of said cartridge frame is provided with a first grip for being gripped when said cartridge is carried, and a trailing end portion of said cartridge frame is provided with a second grip for being gripped when said cartridge is inserted into or taken out of the main assembly of the apparatus.

32. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to Claim 19, further comprising a positioning member provided at a leading end side with respect to the direction of insertion of the process cartridge, the positioning member extending so as to enclose said driving force receiving member, wherein a part of said positioning member is engaged with a positioning recess provided in the main assembly of the apparatus to be correctly positioned at a mount position in the main assembly of the apparatus.

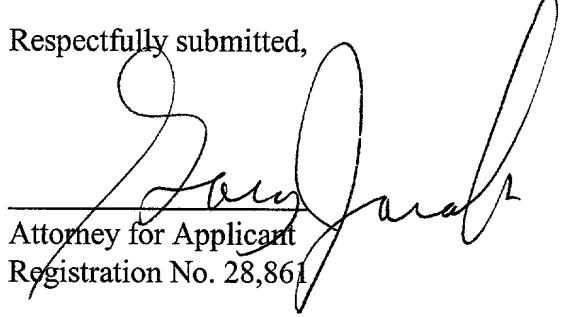
#### REMARKS

Claims 5, 7, 9, 11, 13-14, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31 and 32 have been amended to correct improper multiple dependencies and other minor informalities therein.

Consideration and an early allowance are respectfully solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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MARKED-UP AMENDED CLAIMS

5. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claims 1[, 2 or 3] or 2, wherein said engaging member is projected [upworldly] upwardly beyond a top side of said cartridge frame portion and is projected in the direction of insertion beyond a leading end surface of said cartridge frame portion, wherein said leading end surface is a surface which takes a leading position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus, wherein said top side is a side which takes a top position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

7. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claims 1[, 2 or 3] or 2, wherein said first guide portion is projected beyond [in] a side surface of said cartridge frame portion in a direction crossing with the direction of insertion, and said first guide portion has a horizontal projected portion which is substantially parallel with a top side of said cartridge frame portion and a downward projected portion which projects downwardly from said horizontal projected portion, said downward projected portion [has] having a bottom end for being guided by said guide fixed in the main assembly.

9. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claims 1[, 2 or 3] or 2, wherein said second guide portion is projected downwardly from a bottom side of said cartridge frame portion, and a leading end portion of said second guide portion is engageable with a hole

provided in the main assembly of the apparatus, wherein the bottom side takes a bottom position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

11. (Amended) A process cartridge according to Claims 1], 2 or 3] or 2, wherein said third guide portion is projected downwardly from a bottom side of said cartridge frame portion, wherein the bottom side takes a bottom position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

13. (Amended) A process cartridge according to [any one of Claims 1, 7, 9 and 11] Claim 1, wherein a top side of said cartridge frame is provided with a first grip for being gripped when said cartridge is carried, and a trailing end portion of said cartridge frame is provided with a second grip for being gripped when said cartridge is inserted into or taken out of the main assembly of the apparatus.

14. (Amended) A process cartridge according to [any one of Claims 1, 7, 9, 11 and 13] Claim 1, further comprising a positioning member provided at a leading end side with respect to the direction of insertion of the process cartridge, the positioning member extending so as to enclose said driving force receiving member, wherein a part of said positioning member is engaged with a positioning recess provided in the main assembly of the apparatus to be correctly [position] positioned at a mount position in the main assembly of the apparatus.

23. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to [Claim 19, 20, 21 or 22,] Claims 19 or 20, wherein said engaging member is projected [upworldly] upwardly beyond a top side of said cartridge frame portion and is projected in the direction of insertion beyond a leading end surface of said cartridge frame portion, wherein said leading end surface is a surface which takes a leading position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus, wherein said top side is a side which takes a top position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

25. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to [Claim 19, 20 or 21] Claims 19 or 20, wherein said first guide portion is projected beyond [in] a side surface of said cartridge frame portion in a direction crossing with the direction of insertion, and said first guide portion has a horizontal projected portion which is substantially parallel with a top side of said cartridge frame portion and a downward projected portion which projects downwardly from said horizontal projected portion, said downward projected portion [has] having a bottom end for being guided by said guide fixed in the main assembly.

27. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to [Claim 19, 20 or 21] Claims 19 or 20, wherein said second guide portion is projected downwardly from a bottom side of said cartridge frame portion, and a leading end portion of said second guide portion is engageable with a hole provided in the main assembly of the apparatus, wherein the bottom side takes a bottom position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

29. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to [Claim 19, 20 or 21]

Claim 19 or 20, wherein said third guide portion is projected downwardly from a bottom side of said cartridge frame portion, wherein the bottom side takes a bottom position when said cartridge is inserted into the main assembly of the apparatus.

31. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to [any one of Claims 19, 25, 27 and 29] Claim 19, wherein a top side of said cartridge frame is provided with a first grip for being gripped when said cartridge is carried, and a training end portion of said cartridge frame is provided with a second grip for being gripped when said cartridge is inserted into or taken out of the main assembly of the apparatus.

32. (Amended) A cartridge mounting method according to [any one of Claims 19, 25, 27 and 29] Claim 19, further comprising a positioning member provided at a leading end side with respect to the direction of insertion of the process cartridge, the positioning member extending so as to enclose said driving force receiving member, wherein a part of said positioning member is engaged with a positioning recess provided in the main assembly of the apparatus to be correctly [position] positioned at a mount position in the main assembly of the apparatus.